

Mr. CRAPO and Mr. BARTLETT of Maryland changed their vote from "aye" to "no."

Mr. FOGLIETTA changed his vote from "no" to "aye."

So the bill was passed.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

A message in writing from the President of the United States was communicated to the House by Mr. Edwin Thomas, one of his secretaries.

ANNUAL REPORT OF NATIONAL ENDOWMENT FOR THE ARTS, FISCAL YEAR 1994—MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. KOLBE) laid before the House the following message from the President of the United States; which was read and, together with the accompanying papers, without objection, referred to the Committee on Economic and Educational Opportunities:

To the Congress of the United States:

It is my special pleasure to transmit herewith the Annual Report of the National Endowment for the Arts for the fiscal year 1994.

Over the course of its history, the National Endowment for the Arts has awarded grants for arts projects that reach into every community in the Nation. The agency's mission is public service through the arts, and it fulfills this mandate through support of artistic excellence, our cultural heritage and traditions, individual creativity, education, and public and private partnerships for the arts. Perhaps most importantly, the Arts Endowment encourages arts organizations to reach out to the American people, to bring in new audiences for the performing, literary, and visual arts.

The results over the past 30 years can be measured by the increased presence of the arts in the lives of our fellow citizens. More children have contact with working artists in the classroom, at children's museums and festivals, and in the curricula. More older Americans now have access to museums, concert halls, and other venues. The arts reach into the smallest and most isolated communities, and in our inner cities, arts programs are often a haven for the most disadvantaged, a place where our youth can rediscover the power of imagination, creativity, and hope.

We can measure this progress as well in our re-designed communities, in the buildings and sculpture that grace our cities and towns, and in the vitality of the local economy whenever the arts arrive. The National Endowment for the Arts works the way a Government agency should work—in partnership

with the private sector, in cooperation with State and local government, and in service to all Americans. We enjoy a rich and diverse culture in the United States, open to every citizen, and supported by the Federal Government for our common good and benefit.

WILLIAM J. CLINTON.

THE WHITE HOUSE, March 28, 1996.

HEALTH COVERAGE AVAILABILITY AND AFFORDABILITY ACT OF 1996

Mr. GOSS. Mr. Speaker, by direction of the Committee on Rules, I call up House Resolution 392 and ask for its immediate consideration.

The Clerk read the resolution, as follows:

H. RES. 392

Resolved, That upon the adoption of this resolution it shall be in order to consider in the House the bill (H.R. 3103) to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to improve portability and continuity of health insurance coverage in the group and individual markets, to combat waste, fraud, and abuse in health insurance and health care delivery, to promote the use of medical savings accounts, to improve access to long-term care services and coverage, to simplify the administration of health insurance, and for other purposes. An amendment in the nature of a substitute consisting of the text of H.R. 3160, modified by the amendment specified in part 1 of the report of the Committee on Rules accompanying this resolution, shall be considered as adopted. All points of order against the bill, as amended, and against its consideration are waived (except those arising under section 425(a) of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974). The previous question shall be considered as ordered on the bill, as amended, and on any further amendment thereto to final passage without intervening motion except: (1) two hours of debate on the bill, as amended, with 45 minutes equally divided and controlled by the chairman and ranking minority member of the Committee on Ways and Means, 45 minutes equally divided and controlled by the chairman and ranking minority member of the Committee on Commerce, and 30 minutes equally divided and controlled by the chairman and ranking minority member of the Committee on Economic and Educational Opportunities; (2) the further amendment specified in part 2 of the Committee on Rules, if offered by the minority leader or his designee, which shall be in order without intervention of any point of order (except those arising under section 425(a) of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974) or demand for division of the question, shall be considered as read, and shall be separately debatable for one hour equally divided and controlled by the proponent and an opponent; and (3) one motion to recommit, which may include instructions only if offered by the minority leader or his designee. The yeas and nays shall be considered as ordered on the question of passage of the bill and on any conference report thereon. Clause 5(c) of rule XXI shall not apply to the bill, amendments thereto, or conference reports thereon.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman from Florida [Mr. GOSS] is recognized for 1 hour.

Mr. GOSS. Mr. Speaker, for the purpose of debate only I yield the customary 30 minutes to the distinguished gentleman from Massachusetts [Mr. MOAKLEY], the ranking member of the

Committee on Rules, pending which I yield myself such time as I may consume. During consideration of this resolution all time yielded is for the purpose of debate only.

Mr. Speaker, the Rules Committee has carefully crafted this rule to allow for ample debate on the major issues of health insurance reform without opening ourselves up to a free-for-all. The purpose is to pass a streamlined bill that accomplishes meaningful results without getting bogged down in a replay of last Congress' frustrating and fruitless health reform debate.

Mr. Speaker, this rule is a modified closed rule that allows us to knit together the work product of five major committees. This rule makes in order as base text for the purpose of amendment the text of H.R. 3160, modified by a technical amendment printed in part 1 of the Rules Committee report. The rule waives all points of order against the bill as amended and against its consideration, except those arising under section 425(e) of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974, relating to unfunded mandates. The rule provides for a total of 2 hours of debate, with 45 minutes equally divided between the chairman and ranking member of the Committee on Ways and Means, 45 minutes equally divided between the chairman and ranking member of the Committee on Commerce, and 30 minutes equally divided between the chairman and ranking member of the Committee on Economic and Educational Opportunities. The rule allows the minority to offer the amendment in the nature of a substitute, as referenced to the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD in part 2 of our Rules Committee report. That amendment shall not be subject to any point of order—except relating to section 425(e) of the budget act—or to any demand for a division of the question. The amendment shall be debatable for 1 hour, equally divided between a proponent and an opponent. The previous question shall be considered as ordered on the bill as amended and on any further amendment thereto, to final passage, without intervening motion, except as specified. The rule provides for the traditional right of the minority to offer one motion to recommit, with or without instructions, but instructions may be offered by the minority leader or a designee.

Finally, this rule provides that the yeas and nays are ordered on final passage and that the provisions of clause 5(c) of rule XXI shall not apply to votes on the bill, amendments thereto or conference reports thereon. The purpose of this last provision, Mr. Speaker, is one of an abundance of caution with respect to the new House rule requiring a supermajority vote for any amendment or measure containing a Federal income tax rate increase. The provision in question in the bill is a popular one with Members on both sides of the aisle. It closes the loophole that currently allows people to renounce their citizenship to avoid paying U.S. taxes.